

IN HONOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE'S  
CITY AND TOWN CLERKS**HON. CHRIS PAPPAS**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 7, 2021*

Mr. PAPPAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today during Municipal and Town Clerks Appreciation Week to honor New Hampshire's City and Town Clerks for the hard work that they do each and every day to ensure our local governments run smoothly and that our citizens get the services they need.

Municipal clerks deliver important public services and each year interact with hundreds of members of their community. Whether maintaining public records, registering motor vehicles, licensing dogs and other pets, or administering local elections, chances are you've relied on your local clerk more than once in the last year and on countless occasions throughout your life.

During this pandemic, we've asked city and town clerks to go above and beyond under incredibly difficult circumstances. The COVID-19 pandemic necessarily shut down many aspects of society in order to keep our families and communities safe. But the work of a clerk must continue to ensure that citizens are served and that the wheels of local government continue to move forward.

Administering an election in the best of times is incredibly challenging. Doing so in a pandemic meant clerks had to rewrite the playbook and develop and implement new best practices on short notice. New Hampshire residents voted in record numbers last fall, and even with an unprecedented number of ballots cast early and by mail, our elections ran as smoothly as ever because of the dedication and hard work of our municipal clerks. Providing services and maintaining vital records in the best of times is complex and time consuming. Doing so in a pandemic meant clerks needed to adapt to meet the needs of their neighbors to do their job while keeping residents safe. These are no small feats, and we are grateful.

The New Hampshire City and Town Clerks Code of Ethics states: "Town and city clerks are elected and/or appointed by the citizens who have the utmost trust and faith in the clerk's ability to fairly and honestly serve their community. Let us all live up to that trust with honor and dignity." Over the last year, our municipal clerks have indeed lived up to that trust and performed their duties with honor and dignity throughout New Hampshire.

On behalf of my constituents in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, I want to thank our municipal clerks for their dedication to New Hampshire and convey the thanks of a grateful state for their continued public service.

## HONORING ANNIE LOPEZ

**HON. GREG STANTON**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 7, 2021*

Mr. STANTON. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the lifetime achievement of Annie Lopez, a nationally recognized artist and com-

munity leader in Arizona. A pioneer of the Phoenix art scene, Ms. Lopez shattered barriers to elevate the work of local and Latino artists across our state, and her living legacy deserves to be etched in our historical record for all to remember.

At a young age, she discovered her passion and vision for the arts. In 1982, Ms. Lopez became a member of the Movimiento Artístico del Rio Salado (MARS), a nationally acclaimed Chicano Arts organization. Ms. Lopez made it her mission to re-define how Chicano art is perceived in the broader art community. She became an immediate sensation, captivating audiences through her storytelling focused on her own experiences in Arizona and shared family heritage. Ms. Lopez proudly wears her heritage on her sleeve—and she translated that passion literally with her most recent work, hand-crafted dresses made from stitched-together prints on tamale paper that dawn excerpts of Arizona's SB 1070 and her grandparents' immigration cards. Through her art, she starts a dialogue about racism, stereotypes, and the local art world—making poignant statements about Latino culture with her unmatched sense of humor.

A fourth-generation Arizonan, Ms. Lopez has always been a relentless advocate for our community. She has served as a board member for MARS, and as a panelist for the City of Phoenix and the Arizona Commission on the Arts. Ms. Lopez has exhibited her work in venues across the nation, including the Smithsonian Institution, the National Museum of Mexican Art in Chicago, the Phoenix Art Museum, Tucson Museum of Art, and the Arizona State University Art Museum. In the beginning of 2020, in recognition of her artistic excellence, Ms. Lopez was the first Latina artist to have her work displayed in the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C.—cementing her legacy as one of the greatest artists Phoenix has ever known.

Ms. Lopez has given all her time, heart and soul to the betterment of Phoenix and Arizona. She has inspired so many young artists to achieve their highest aspirations, and those who learn from her enter the world with a greater appreciation for Chicano art history.

I humbly rise to extend my heartfelt gratitude and appreciation to Ms. Lopez for immense contributions to our state. A dedicated artist, advocate, and community servant, her life's work remains a local favorite in Phoenix, and I wish her the best as she continues to create a legacy that will be felt by Arizonans for generations to come.

HONORING ECOS' ESSENTIAL  
WORKERS**HON. MARILYN STRICKLAND**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 7, 2021*

Ms. STRICKLAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor ECOS' dedicated essential workers from the sustainable manufacturing facility located in Lacey, Washington, in the 10th Congressional District.

Family-owned, women-owned, and operated since 1967, ECOS is known for being a pioneer of environmentally friendly and sustainable cleaning products. In addition to its facility in the South Sound, ECOS operates manufac-

turing plants across our nation, employing hundreds of Americans. Just this month, ECOS officially became a climate positive brand, stepping up as an environmental leader in Washington, and across the country, by regenerating more natural resources than it consumes.

Not only does ECOS play a leading role in the cleaning products industry as a climate positive manufacturer and embody a bold vision for a sustainable future, ECOS has also been an essential business in the fight against COVID-19. Since the start of the pandemic, ECOS' essential workers have been working around the clock to manufacture sustainable cleaning supplies.

Madam Speaker, I am proud that ECOS essential workers represent my district and my community in the South Sound. I want to personally thank and recognize them for their dedication and patriotism in making safe and eco-friendly cleaning products throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. They are the frontline heroes that are powering our region and our nation as we recover, rebuild, and emerge from this pandemic on stronger, more sustainable footing. For all of these reasons, it is my privilege to recognize the tremendous contributions of ECOS' essential workers.

EXPLANATION REGARDING  
COSPONSORING A BILL**HON. BRAD SHERMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 7, 2021*

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, it's appropriate for me to republish my statement of March 11, 2019 on the meaning of cosponsoring legislation. Much of that statement was a republication of my statement of September 29, 2010, as I've maintained a consistent policy on this issue. The following is a republication of my statement of March 11, 2019.

"Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, September 29, 2010, stated for the RECORD:

'Madam Speaker, I wish to clarify that when I cosponsor a bill, it does not necessarily mean that I agree with every part of it. At a minimum, my cosponsorship indicates that I support moving the bill forward through the legislative process, including being marked up in committee, and if sent to the floor by the relevant committee(s), then subject to consideration and amendment on the floor.'

Let me reiterate that 2010 statement and provide additional background. I believe in the legislative process. I believe bills are improved during committee mark-ups and by consideration of amendments on the floor. The effect of cosponsoring a bill is to signal to the relevant committee chair(s) that I believe the bill should be marked-up in committee, a process that may well improve the bill (and in some cases may make the bill worse). When I decide to cosponsor a bill after it has completed the committee process, I do signal to the Speaker and Rules Committee that I believe the bill should be considered on the floor, and almost always under an open rule."

CELEBRATING THE WORTHY BOYS  
AND GIRLS CAMP

**HON. RALPH NORMAN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 7, 2021*

Mr. NORMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the honorable work of the Worthy Boys and Girls Camp in Rock Hill, South Carolina.

Since 1950, the Worthy Boys and Girls Camp has provided a week-long opportunity for York County youth to experience the outdoors each summer. It is the only free overnight camp in the area, planned and organized entirely by the Rock Hill Police Department. Through a variety of sports activities and trainings, children build upon their strengths to improve individual self-esteem, develop new interpersonal skills, and gain a greater appreciation for their surrounding community.

Aside from providing a safe and supportive environment, camp staff instill in young boys and girls a sense of consistent teamwork, commitment, and sharing. Nearly 200 children are exposed to new ideas, places, and friendships every summer that will teach them lessons they'll carry forward through life.

The Worthy Boys and Girls Camp is a shining example of the sense of community felt across Rock Hill.

Locals enjoy supporting the camp through their donations and various volunteer efforts. Week-long sessions are staffed by police officers, department staff members, and volunteers of all ages who dedicate long hours and resources to ensuring the camp's continued success. Many police officers who attended the program as students, like Rock Hill Police Chief Chris Watts, now serve as camp counselors.

The lifechanging work of the Worthy Boys and Girls Camp has created positive relationships between local law enforcement officers and youth for decades. The camp plays an integral role in developing Rock Hill's youngest talent into promising leaders. I congratulate the Worthy Boys and Girls Camp on a successful 72 years, and I look forward to watching them serve our community's children in the future.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL  
NURSES WEEK

**HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 7, 2021*

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Nurses Week, a celebration to acknowledge our nurses for their unwavering courage, hard work and dedication. Our frontline heroes have been at the forefront of this global pandemic, and their sacrifice is well-deserving of recognition.

For many healthcare workers, this past year has been the toughest challenge of their career. Despite these unprecedented obstacles, they have continued to show bravery and selflessness by risking their own health to provide patients with the utmost care.

Along with the fear of the unknown and the rigorous work schedule, our frontline line work-

ers have made huge personal sacrifices as well. Despite living with the fear of contracting COVID-19 themselves or potentially bringing the virus home to their loved ones; these healthcare workers still manage to do their jobs and protect our communities.

In celebration of National Nurses Week, I encourage everyone to take the time to thank our nurses for choosing selflessness over self-preservation and rising to the challenge of COVID-19. Therefore, Madam Speaker, I ask that you rise with me to celebrate National Nurses Week.

IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID  
ELLIOT

**HON. TERESA LEGER FERNANDEZ**

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 7, 2021*

Ms. LEGER FERNANDEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor David Elliot from Taos, New Mexico. On Wednesday, April 28, 2021, President Biden delivered his first address to a Joint Session of Congress, 100 days into his first term.

When President Biden took the oath of office, he pledged that help was on the way. Thanks to our work together to enact the American Rescue Plan, help is finally here.

The hardworking people in New Mexico and all across the country have also shown us what true community looks like. David is one of those community heroes.

In a typical year, I would invite him to join me in the House Chamber for the Joint Address. COVID-19 safety protocols mean this year's in-person attendance will be limited and we will be watching from our beautiful New Mexico. But I did not want to miss this important opportunity to honor David.

David's commitment to serving others is inspiring. His work to bring people and organizations together to establish the Enchanted Circle of Community Organizations Active in Disaster is the embodiment of community. The Enchanted Circle COAD helped others in Taos, Colfax, Santa Fe counties and beyond. They have donated millions of dollars directly and in kind to their neighbors. During the initial phases of the COVID-19 response, David also served as the Deputy Director of the NM State Emergency Operations Center. His passion for emergency management has also led him to serve his community as a volunteer firefighter, volunteer Fire Chief, and as Emergency Management Coordinator for Taos and Santa Fe County.

David pointed out to me that he was honored to view this address as my guest on behalf of the countless New Mexicans, businesses, non-profits, and organizations who donated their time, effort, and money to help New Mexico recover during this extremely difficult time.

I'm proud to invite him as my virtual guest to the Presidential Address. He truly represents the best that New Mexico has to offer, and I thank him for his selflessness and life-saving work.

IN RECOGNITION OF VICKIE  
THOMAS

**HON. RASHIDA TLAIB**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 7, 2021*

Ms. TLAIB. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the outstanding contributions of award-winning journalist Vickie Thomas, a proud daughter of Michigan's 13th Congressional District.

Ms. Thomas was raised in Highland, Park Michigan and first became interested in journalism as a student at Detroit Henry Ford High School. She went on to graduate with honors, earning her degree in broadcast journalism from Wayne State University. Ms. Thomas is best known in southeast Michigan as the voice of WWJ NewsRadio, where she reported on local news and events.

Ms. Thomas' work has garnered local and national accolades. She has earned awards from the Detroit Press Foundation, the Michigan Association of Broadcasters, the Associated Press, and the National Association of Black Journalists. Ms. Thomas is a recipient of the national "Gabriel Award" from UNDA-USA for the WWJ Black History Month Series "The African-American Church: The Heart and Soul of Metro Detroit's Black Community." She is a member of the National Association of Black Journalists.

Please join me in paying tribute to Vickie Thomas's numerous achievements and hard work in bringing news and stories of local interest to the people of southeast Michigan.

RECOGNIZING CINCO DE MAYO

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, May 7, 2021*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the holiday of Cinco de Mayo commemorating the victory of the Mexican Army 1862 over France at the Battle of Puebla during the Franco-Mexican War.

The fifth day of May, or Cinco de Mayo, is a special day because it represents the importance of freedom, liberty and determination for the people of Mexico and for Mexican-Americans.

It was on that day, May 5, 1862, that untrained, outnumbered, and outgunned Mexican forces—determined to protect their land—successfully defended the town of Puebla against the French.

The quest for an independent Mexico started on September 16, 1810, when the people of Mexico, following the will to become a free nation, refused to submit to Spanish rule.

The struggle went on for 10 years.

Finally, in 1821, the first independent Mexican government was established.

But being an independent nation was not easy.

Over the years, Mexico received economic support from several nations, France and England among them.

Later on, even Spain supported the new country.

Thus, Mexico became heavily indebted to foreign powers.